



The Canal Zone Philatelist



Vol. 28, No. 4

Fourth Quarter, 1992

Whole No. 105

President's Report

Richard D. Bates, Jr.

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Palisades Station

Washington, D.C. 20016

Just before I sat down to write this report, the catalogue for this year's successful CZSG Mail Sale arrived. Because Brad Wilde, the CZSG Vice-President was running the 1992 Sale, I am taking over the role of writing the fourth quarter report which is customarily the Vice-President's responsibility. Brad will pick up the report in the first quarter of 1993.

This was our 21st Mail Sale, going back to 1972 when George Stilwell first put into motion the idea he had had somewhat earlier. What a boon it has been for the educational objectives of the CZSG, as it has been the main source of funding the handbooks and other publications that we have been able to prepare and distribute. Without the contributions the Mail Sale makes to the publication fund each year, we never would have been able to carry on this range of activities.

This is an all-volunteer affair, as those who put in the tremendous amount of time and effort to run the Sale each year do so without compensation and often with too little recognition. By far the greatest burden has been carried by George Stilwell and Dick Salz, who have run all but two of the previous 20 sales. Brad becomes only the fourth person to take on this task. Since I ran two sales in the 80s, I am the only other member who has run a sale.

As time goes on, we are anxious to have others who will volunteer to run a sale, either alone or in a group. To continue this valuable service to our members who wish to sell some of their material to members and others who want the chance to purchase from a wide range of CZ material - from the commonplace to the unusual variety - and to benefit the activities that are the basis for the existence of our organization, I encourage you to participate in future sales, bidding, providing lots, and volunteering to help with the Mail Sale if it is held near you, are all valuable ways you can help make this a continuing success.

1963 Alliance for Progress 15¢ Air Mail Commemorative

by Arline R. Leeds

An official Panama Canal Press Release from Balboa Heights dated July 10, 1963, under the seal of the Canal Zone Isthmus of Panama, announced a 15¢ air mail stamp commemorating the second anniversary of the Alliance for Progress. The stamps (Scott C35) were placed on sale at the Balboa Post Office on August 17. Fig. 1 shows the press release. (See page 28.)

The Alliance for Progress was an organization of Western Hemisphere countries formed to stimulate economic growth and raise living standards throughout Latin America. The commemorative, designed by Gerald A. Doyle, Jr. of the Panama Canal Company, pictures the Alliance of Progress insignia (Fig. 2).

The press release states that the multicolor 0.84 x 1.44 inch stamps were to be printed on white, pre-gummed paper in gray, green, and blue on the Giori press, arranged horizontally and issued in sheets of 50. According to *Canal Zone Stamps*, pages 226-

Fig. 2.

Alliance
for Progress
Design.



227, they were printed in three inks in one pass through the press. "The plate had 200 subjects (10 x 20) divided into quarters by horizontal and vertical gutters. The printed sheets were perforated along both sides of the gutters and separated into panes of 50 (5 x 10) through the center of the gutters." The plate number (168325) appears on the narrow selvage at the top and bottom corners of the sheet. "No errors or varieties are on record."

The press release says that "An initial printing of 200,000 was authorized." *Canal Zone Stamps* states that a total of 405,000 were issued and distributed until the supply was exhausted. This discrepancy in quantity probably indicates a second shipment from BEP rather than a second printing.

(Continued on page 28)

Meeting Notice

ARIPEX93, Tucson, Arizona, January 22-24, 1993 will have a special showing of Canal Zone, as well as a Regional CZSG Meeting. The meeting will take place Saturday, January 23 at 1:30 to 3:00 p.m. in the Greenlee Room, the Tucson Convention Center. An impressive number of exhibits have been logged in for the 75 frames reserved for Canal Zone stamps and covers. The CZSG Medal may be awarded to a suitable exhibit. Request additional information on Tucson or the show from Mrs. Betsy Towle, 4621 E. Don Jose Drive, Tucson, AZ 84718.

The Canal Zone Philatelist

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A.P.S. Affiliate No. 42

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Los Angeles, CA 90049

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Display advertising accepted from CZSG members only at the following rates per insertion:

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No larger advertisements are accepted. Remittance must accompany copy. Deadline for ads, first day of Mar., June, Sept., Dec. Advertising copy should be sent to Paul J. Kravitz, P.O. Box 9157, Bardonia, NY 10954.

Back issues of the journal, handbooks, and other publications can be ordered from Richard F. Murphy, 501 Rosebud Lane, Greer, SC 29650.

Articles and information for publication should be sent to David J. Leeds, P.O. Box 491472, Los Angeles, CA 90049. Manuscripts must be double-spaced typed or printed copy. Glossy photographs must be supplied for figures of stamps or covers which must show clearly against black backgrounds. Photocopies are not satisfactory. If you need help, write to the Editor. The author must advise the Editor if the article has been published or is being considered for publication elsewhere.

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Canal Zone Study Group

Winners

by Bradley A. Baker

STaMpsHOW '92, American Philatelic Society, August 27-30, 1992, Oakland, California, Vermeil to Bradley G. Wilde, "Canal Zone Registered Mail, 1904-1924"; Silver to Allan M. Harris, "Canal Zone Foreign Air Mail Service, 1925-1931."

HOUPLEX '92, Houston Philatelic Society, October 2-4, 1992, Houston, Texas, Grand Award to Paul F. Ammons, "Canal Zone Second Air Mail Series."

SESCAL '92, Federated Philatelic Clubs of Southern California, October 9-11, 1992, Vermeil to David J. Leeds, "Canal Zone Aerophilately, 1918-1947"; Vermeil and U.S. Cancellation Club Award to Bradley G. Wilde, "Canal Zone Mail 1904-1924."

CZSG

Oakland Meeting

The Canal Zone Study Group meeting at STaMpsHOW '92 at the Oakland Convention Center, Oakland, California, August 29, 1992 was a real success. Twenty-five Canal Zone enthusiasts attended, with the meeting finally ending after one and three-quarters hours!

The meeting started with each attendee introducing himself. That was followed by a review of publications being developed by CZSG authors.

Several members gave talks on various show-and-tell subjects. A particularly interesting slide show of the American Bank Note Co. specimen stamps was presented by David Leeds. A fascinating presentation was made by Takahiro Ohta from Japan, who passed around covers that were mailed in the Canal Zone to addresses in Japan. They began with the early issues and went up to the more recent. Then Takahiro presented to this writer a copy of a book entitled *The Panama Canal - people whose shadow shone in the water of it in 1980*, by Koji Yamaguchi (formerly of the Japanese Embassy in Panama). There are 270 pages, 4-1/2 x 6-3/4"; the only two legible to me are the bibliography in English. Someday I hope to have my Japanese neighbor do the translating.

All in all a great session, and I had the pleasure of meeting members from the east as well as Takahiro, whom I had not seen for some 10 years.

R.H. Salz

*Support CZSG
Recruit a
new member!*

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#54*, 5c blue & black, Type IV Ovpt. UR BLOCK of 8, with Plate No. F4736 and major part of imprint. Mostly VF Mint OG, NH. 1992 Scott Retail (as 2 blocks of 4) \$1850++. Net \$1750

#55e*, 1c green & black, Type V Ovpt. BOOKLET PANE of 6, with full margin tab, Ex. Fine Mint, OG, NH. Insignificant tiny shallow indent in margin. 1992 Scott Retail \$2750+. '91 P.F. Certificate. Net \$2500

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Auctions

by Gilbert N. Plass

Very little Canal Zone material was sold at auction during the past quarter and few rarer stamps.

All items are unused and in very fine condition unless mentioned otherwise. The realization is given first, followed by the catalogue price. Some prices include the 10% charge to the buyer, while others do not. If the price ends in a round number, it usually does not include the 10% charge; otherwise it is included.

Canal Zone

Scott No. 1, f, ng, \$341 (\$450) Philstamps
2, f/vf, ng, \$143 (\$200) Philstamps
3, f/vf, lh, og, \$209 (\$300) Philstamps
3 on cover to Peru, \$220 (\$300) Newman
16, bl. of 12 on reg. cover to NY, \$123 Philstamps

20, var., CZSG No. 20.3, antique "Z", \$132 Philstamps

21, bl. of 6, \$110 (\$200) Siegel

22, var., CZSG No. 22.5, "ANA" in pr. with normal, \$79 (\$72) Philstamps

32b, booklet pane of 6, \$550 (\$700) Fox
39F, booklet pane of 6, center inv., tiny pin hole in margin of LL stamp, \$4250 (\$5000) Fox

52d, var., bottom pair from pane with dbl. CANAL ZONE on R stamp, normal ovpt. on L stamp (2 recorded), \$2600 Fox

55, 98, 99, vf, bl. of 4, \$165 (172) Superior

59, f/vf, \$110 (\$145) Philstamps

71e, f, \$121 (\$150) Philstamps

78, f/vf, h, \$48 (\$47) Philstamps

95, trop og, short perfs, f, \$110 (\$125) Superior

120-135 on FDC, \$138 Superior

C15-C20, bl. of 4 on FDC, \$110 Superior

CO2, var., CZSG No. CO2.2a, used, "O" over "N", \$23 (\$2) Philstamps

CO3, var., used, broken "N", \$42 (\$2) Philstamps

CO5, postally used, \$18 (\$5) Philstamps

CO8, used (precancel), \$550 (\$750) Siegel

J1, used pair with pl. number, \$34 (\$30) Philstamps

OX1, \$40 (\$40) Superior

OX3, full sh. of 25, \$75 (\$100) Philstamps

U9, \$21 (\$30) UPSS

UXC3, \$6 (\$3) UPSS

UXC4-UXC5, \$3.75 (\$3.75) UPSS

Please mention *The Canal Zone Philatelist* when writing for a catalogue. Auction-

eers wishing to have their sales included, send catalogues with prices realized to Gilbert N. Plass, Box 9973, College Station, TX 77842. Auctions: William A. Fox, 676 Morris Ave., Springfield, NJ 07081; Lowell S. Newman and Co., 1500 Harbor Blvd., Weehawken, NJ 07087; Philstamps, 4795 Mariposa Dr., San Bernardino, CA 92404; Robert A. Siegel, Park Avenue Tower, 17th Floor, 65 East 55th St., New York, NY 10002; Superior Stamp and Coin Co., Inc., 9301 Wilshire Blvd., Beverly Hills, CA 90210; United Postal Stationery Society, Box 48, Redlands, CA 92373.



Fig. 1. Dropped "ON" on Post Card.

CZ9 Dropped "ON" Striking Paydirt In Idaho by Pat Dowling

Making a find is one of the great pleasures of Canal Zone collecting. At the Boise Stamp Fair in early April, I obtained a Canal Zone #9 on a post card, shown in Fig. 1, from the dealer next to me. It has a La Boca cancel dated April 4, 1905. Later in the day, I had a chance to look more closely at the stamp, Fig. 2, and discovered that it is the dropped "ON" variety, CZSG 9.2. Not realizing that this variety is listed in Scott, I did not find out what I really had until I got home and checked the Book, just before I left for our local stamp club meeting, where I wanted to show my find to a good friend, who is also a Canal Zone collector. It was not until two days later that I had a chance to get back to the Book, where I found that only eight other copies are on record. The variety occurred late in the first printing. A mint copy is illustrated in CZP 46:1. A telephone call to one of the authors revealed that this is apparently the only copy of the variety known on cover. I acquired this item on April 4, eighty-seven years to the day from the date it was postmarked in La Boca.

Book Review by David L. Farnsworth

Panama: Made in the USA by John Weeks and Phil Gunson (London, England: Latin American Bureau, 1991; distributed by Monthly Review Press, 122 West 27th Street, New York, NY 10001) (ISBN 0-0906156-55-6), 131 pages, paperbound, \$8.00.

and

Operation Just Cause: The U.S. Intervention in Panama edited by Bruce W. Watson and Peter G. Tsouras (Boulder, CO: Westview Press, 1991) (ISBN 0-8133-7981-4), 245 pages, paperbound, \$29.95.

Both of these books are basically about Operation Just Cause and the events

surrounding it. Although the opening sentence on page one of *Panama: Made in the USA* begins "The U.S. invasion of Panama on 20 December 1989 was a crime both in international law and against civilized values, it was also a spectacularly successful crime..." and Appendix 1 is titled "U.S. Violations of International Law," this is a balanced account.

This book focuses on the years 1987 through 1990. It discusses the events of 1987-1989 that led to the invasion, called Operation Just Cause, in December 1989 and the aftermath of the invasion in Panama in 1990. Also, there are chapters on Manuel Noriega and the history of Panama. The book concludes that "As long as [Noriega] had been an 'asset' his crimes could be overlooked; now that he was a liability they would be subjected to closer scrutiny [in the USA]."

There are page-long quotes from books and articles. Some of these were written by the authors, but many are first-hand accounts by others. They add an extra dimension to the text. There are sections containing synopses of Panamanian political parties, definitions of acronyms, summaries of human rights violations in the Noriega and Endara eras, and a chronology from 1821 to September 10, 1990.

Operation Just Cause: The U.S. Intervention in Panama is a compendium of 13 articles. All the authors are, or have been, U.S. government employees - many in the military or intelligence areas. However, only public, not secret, sources are cited.

The book is divided into four sections. Section I, "Background (1905-1988)", has three articles. Section II, "The Prelude," contains one article analyzing the signs that could be read in both countries, from which one might conclude that the invasion was the nearly inevitable outcome of the worsening relations.

Section III, "The Operation," is composed of six chapters analyzing the forces used, command, control, communications,

intelligence, air power, logistical support, civil affairs, and press relations of Operation Just Cause. Section IV, titled "The Aftermath," contains three chapters examining the impact of Operation Just Cause on U.S.-Panama relations and international relations in general. The lessons learned by the United States are also discussed in the final chapter.

This book is a good one for information and analysis from the American viewpoint.

Fig. 2. Dropped "ON".



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Alliance For Progress

(Continued from page 25)

The press release was followed by an Announcement Card sent under penalty frank to the usual mailing list. The complete card shown as Fig. 3 has the identical text of the Press Release. The First Day cancel on the Press Release was not part of the original mailout but applied later. A photocopy of the stamp design accompanied the Press Release.

Fig. 4 is a photo of Canal Zone Governor Robert J. Fleming, Jr. applying a first day postmark to covers. The others, from left to right, are E.F. Unruh, Director of Posts, R.S. Hurt, Assistant Director of Posts, L.E. Kraft (background), and A. T. Cotton, Balboa Postmaster.

Fig. 5 shows a special folder signed by Earl F. Unruh, Director of Posts, which was received by L.E. Kraft in connection with the ceremony. [Kraft was later in charge of the Balboa and then the Cristobal Air Mail Sections.] Fig. 6 is a first day cover with a lower left plate block of C35 signed by Fleming, Unruh, and Cotton.

Two of the dozen or so commercial cachets prepared for the first day of issue are presented as Fig. 7. The hand-canceling device is identified as Ent. FD-12; the machine cancel as FD-5, dial M-3d, var. a. Readers having other versions of cachets are requested to send xeroxes so they may be included in the cachet listings currently being prepared by Robert J. Karrer, Jr. Send to him at P.O. Box 6094, Alexandria, VA 22306 or to the Editor.

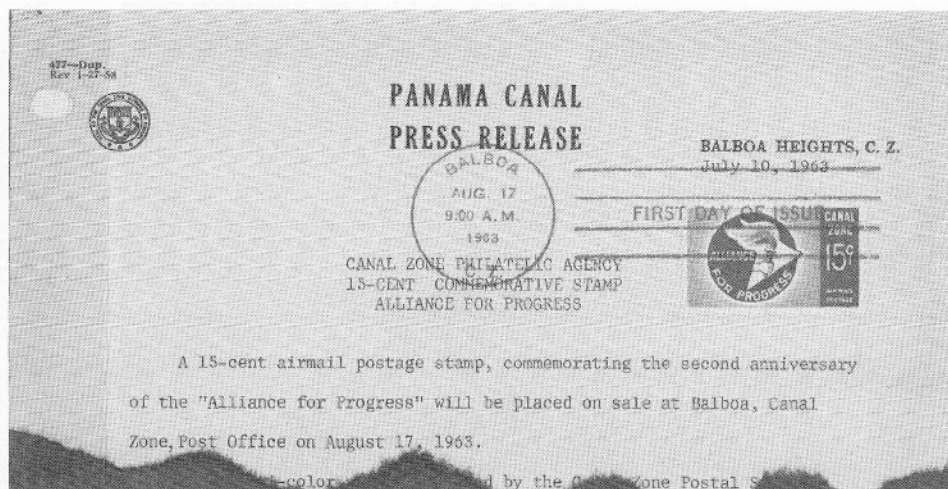


Fig. 1. Press Release. (Note: Text is identical in complete Annoucement Card shown in Fig. 3.)



**Fig. 4. First Day
Cover Ceremony.**

CANAL ZONE PHILATELIC AGENCY

Alliance for Progress *15-cent Commemorative Stamp*

A 15-cent airmail postage stamp, commemorating the second anniversary of the "Alliance for Progress" will be placed on sale at Balboa, C.Z. Post Office on August 17, 1963.

This multi-color stamp, released by the Canal Zone Postal Service, will be printed on white pre-gummed paper in three colors, gray, green and blue, on the Giori press by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. An initial printing of 200,000 has been authorized.

The stamp will be 0.84 by 1.44 inches in dimension, arranged horizontally and issued in sheets of 50.

The central design of the stamp is the Alliance for Progress insignia, superimposed on a gray background. On the right of the stamp in a blue block background is the lettering CANAL ZONE, 15¢, AIRMAIL POSTAGE.

Stamp collectors desiring first day cancellations of the stamp may send addressed envelopes to the Philatelic Agency, Balboa Heights, C.Z., with money order remittance to cover the cost of the stamps affixed. Postage stamps and personal checks will not be accepted. Envelopes submitted should be of ordinary letter size and should be properly addressed. An enclosure of medium weight should be placed in each envelope and the flap either turned in or sealed. An outside envelope must not be sent for the return of first day covers. Each cover should be pencil marked in the upper right-hand corner to show the number of stamps to be affixed; therefore no letter of instruction need be sent. The envelope to the Agency should be endorsed First Day Covers. Requests for unusual arrangements and plate numbers cannot be granted.

Requests for mint stamps must not be included with orders for first day covers, but sent separately to the Philatelic Agency, Balboa Heights, C.Z., and must include return postage. To insure prompt shipment of the 15-cent stamp, orders should not include other denominations of Canal Zone stamps.

PHILATELIC AGENCY Balboa Heights, Canal Zone

**Fig. 3
Announcement Card.**

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| 38. Publication of Statement of Ownership (Check one) <input type="checkbox"/> Publication required by 39 U.S.C. 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Fig. 5. First Day Souvenir Folder.

CANAL ZONE
Comprehensive Stock Including
singles, plate blocks, FDC's, FFC's,
B.O.B., stationery, covers and
collateral material.
Send for Free Detailed List
Wants Lists Serviced
C & H STAMPS
P.O. Box 324
Syracuse, NY 13209
Phone (315) 488-0136
CZSG APS USPPS

Fig. 6. Autographed First Day Cover.

APS Rejected Sale of CZ Officials

May 21, 1942

Honorable Frank C. Walker,
Postmaster General,
Washington, D.C.
Dear Mr. Walker:

I have noted with considerable apprehension an article appearing in the May 23rd Issue of Stamps Magazine written by George B. Sloane which states that the overprinted "Official Panama Canal" stamps issued in March, 1941, are now to be canceled to order and sold through the Balboa Heights postoffice at face value to collectors.

These particular stamps have been very scarce items and dealers and collectors have been paying fancy prices for them. It seems most unfair for the Canal Zone postoffice department to now reissue these stamps, cancel them to order, and sell them in competition with American dealers and collectors at their face value.

Such practice has been frowned upon for years. The United States has never done any thing of this sort in all the years it has issued stamps. It should use its influence to stop the practice in the Canal Zone. Any thing you may personally do to bring about a cancellation of this determination will be appreciated by the thousands of stamp collectors in the United States, I am sure.

The hobby of stamp collecting can easily be irreparably harmed if the Canal Zone postoffice places cancelled to order stamps on sale as projected.

Respectfully yours,
/s/Rollin E. Flower, President,
American Philatelic Society



Fig. 7. Commercial Cachets.

Questionnaire Results

(Continued from page 12)

39. CZSG has a very professional image
40. The group has opened up a wide friendship with both members in the U.S. and also in a limited way here in the U.K.
41. Really appreciate the last two handbooks, keep up the good work
42. CZP/CZSG is a great value for the money
43. Keep up the good work & my sincere thanks
44. Your mail sales and handbooks are first rate
45. Not really actively collecting now, but I enjoy reading the articles
46. I always look forward to the annual mail sale
47. I find the CZSG & CZP excellent reading & informative, don't change
48. I'm retired now and haven't been active in collecting stamps for several years. I stay in the CZSG for the CZP. I still like to read it even though I don't collect anymore
49. You do an excellent job of keeping members informed
50. I enjoy the CZSG and ready everything I receive, thanks for the good year
51. Many thanks to the nucleus of the hard working devoted people who contribute to the CZSG & CZP, hats off
52. No real complaints as I'm unable to contribute to the CZP. You guys & gals do a fine job, I know its a lot of hard work
53. I like the Oct. mail sale, if anything is to be kept its the mail sale
54. Carry on at this level, with friendly greetings from Holland
55. As a former Zonian I think you're doing a terrific job
56. Enjoy the society & publications and appreciate all the hard work
7. Articles on FDC's
8. Articles on history of air mail flights/routes
9. More book reviews
10. More CZSG meetings especially in NY area
11. Maintain article "My Favorite Covers"
12. Make it easier to contribute to the CZP
13. Offer a photo service, to contribute to the CZP
14. Articles on postmarks, CZ towns and their usage years***
15. More articles on first flights***
16. Trace history of CZ back to Panama in continuing article***
17. More articles on CZ & Panama***
18. Larger dues envelopes for checks
19. Handbook on Postal rates of the CZ
20. What Life was like in the CZ***
21. More on how to start collecting CZ material and what's available***
22. More on CZ collectibles and memorabilia***
23. Handbook on WWII censor markings
24. More on CZ fraud, counterfeits, tropical gum***
25. CZ stamps used as money
26. How to sell your CZ collection, can the CZSG help, tips and ideas please ***
27. More effort on CZ history***
28. More local CZSG meetings
29. Handbook on FDC's
30. CZP is not received timely
31. Have a circulation sales book available to all members, to buy and/or sell in ***
32. Have a CZ authenticating committee, w/articles
33. Articles on CZ history reflected in stamps***
34. Reprint popular articles from older CZP's
35. Articles on postal history of CZ***
36. More on CZ rail post & RMS
37. Too many fly speck articles not enough on different areas of CZ
38. More human interest stories in the CZ
39. Compare genuine CZ stamps with counterfeits
40. Make CZ trinkets available key chains, T-shirts, etc.
41. Organize more local CZSG chapters
44. Construction days articles, events leading up to construction***
45. Publish an updated checklist from "Canal Zone Stamps" w/all latest changes
46. New booklet pane survey
47. CZP is usually late, send notice to that effect
48. More publications on CZ Postal Rates
49. Identify members in each state for correspondence
50. More on picture post cards and canal history***
51. Update CZ pre-cancel handbook
52. CZSG support additional CZ PPC handbooks
53. More articles on CZ FDC's and cachets***
54. More attention to CZ stationery
55. Update CZ stationery catalog
56. Handbook on CZ FFC's
57. Have a committee update CZ FDC listings in the Scotts catalog, including First Day Covers not listed
58. Articles on prominent CZ collectors, historical and biographical articles, personalities connected to canal zone philately***
59. Articles on WWII, military aspects of CZ philately
60. Handbook on CZ varieties
61. More on CZ perf P's
62. Start a section on how to buy and sell CZ material
63. Run more membership ads
64. Handbook on CZ postage dues and their usages
65. Publish CZP more often
66. Keep a computerized inventory list of all CZ philatelic material
67. Articles on more of the common CZ items of interest
68. Handbook or article on CZ ships that went through the canal
69. Create a list of all ship photo PPC's and identify them
70. More CZ book reviews
71. Articles on basic CZ stamp collecting***
72. More postal history articles***
73. More on unusual covers "Cover of the Month"***
74. List of all ships that went through the canal and their postal markings
75. A list FFC's of Lindbergh
76. Handbook or articles of CZ coils
77. More of a notice on when the mail sale is held
78. More FFC articles***
79. More postal history articles***
80. Articles on covers with normal usage (non-philatelic)
81. Articles on covers, lower value items, not expensive ones
82. More emphasis on lower value stamps and covers

YOUR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
WISHES TO THANK ALL OF YOU!

COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

(Note: *** indicates a popular subject)

1. More articles on construction days***
2. More articles on postal history & forerunners***
3. More articles on basic collecting/for beginners (CZ material)***
4. Articles on CZ exhibits and how to
5. Write more articles on popular CZ topics
6. Publish a handbook on varieties & overprints

(Continued on page 31)

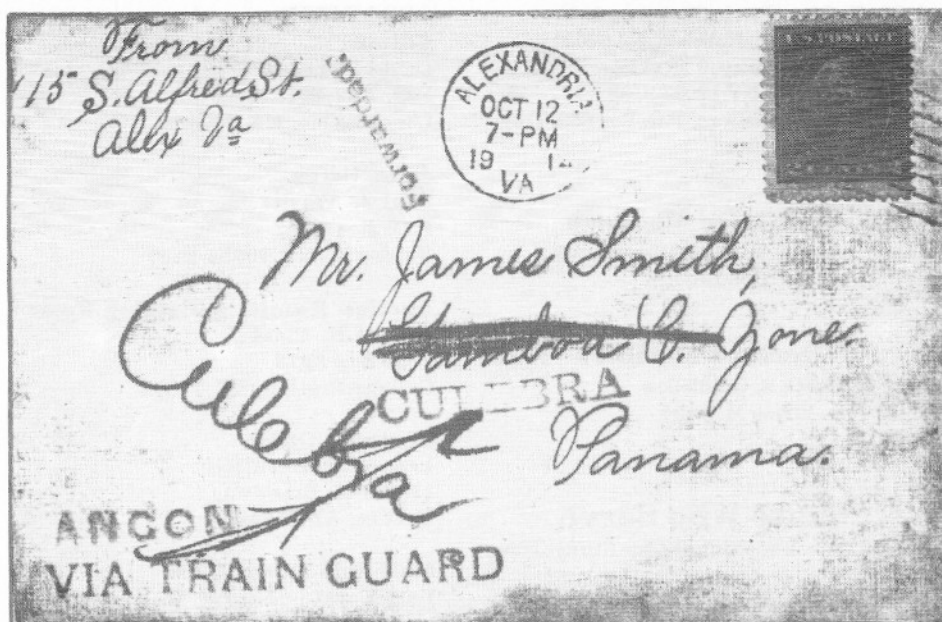


Fig. 1. "VIA TRAIN GUARD."

Questionnaire Results

(Continued from page 30)

83. More on fakes***
84. Articles on cover and stamp values to better deal with dealers
High value as well as low value items
85. A easy to carry Check List booklet, pocket size
86. Articles on stamp condition and their ranges
87. More articles w/photo's of CZ post offices
88. Hold a mail sale for only less valuable CZ material
89. Handbook on CZ permits
90. More information on other CZ auctions and list lower valued items not just the extremely high value items
91. Notify the membership of upcoming auction with CZ material listed (not just ours)
92. Have an expertising service in the CZSG***
93. Occasional article on what philatelic material is available to new CZ collectors***
94. More photos on CZ forgeries***
95. More on CZ back to basic***
96. Handbook on all of Elmer Smith's cachets, CZ & Panama
97. Articles on Canal operations & historical reports w/photos
98. Idea, a different editor for each topic/area, like the APS has
99. More on CZ memorabilia***
100. Articles on how to seel CZ material in auctions and how to ship them, packaging, etc.
101. Show more picture postcards, Paquebot & FFC's
102. More political & postal history***
103. Bind up CZP's in hard bound book form and sell them
104. Articles on CZ T.B. seals
105. Do we have a sales circuit book to send out material on approvals? If not why not?

Two Magazine Articles by David L. Farnsworth

Two long magazine articles about the Canal Zone and the Panama Canal have appeared and may still be available at your local library.

The better one is "A Disquieting Visit to the Canal Zone" by Carl Posey on pages 158-179 of the November 1991 *Smithsonian* (P.O. Box 55593, Boulder, CO 80322-5593). There are seven interesting color illustrations by Robert Crawford. Posey gives a personal account of growing up in the Zone and his observations of the present conditions there. He characterizes the Zone as "America's flirtation with socialism" and describes the area as currently in "decay" and "dysfunctional." The article is well written with some passion.

The other article is "Rites of Passage: What an Intricate Marvel the Panama Canal Is" by Pete Hamill on pages 60-67 and 132-134 of the April 1990 *Travel Holiday* (P.O. Box 2035, Marion, OH 43306-2135). The author relates his touristy view of his own trip through the canal aboard the QE2. Mindless and disconnected details fill the story. This (almost) randomly selected sentence is typical: "The waterline was dark green against the concrete sides of the lock, and gulls wheeled and made screaming sounds while members of the ship's crew filled one of

the lower decks, watching in amazement, cocking Nikons and Kodaks." This reviewer was aggravated by this mishmash of unrelated and useless verbiage.

Via Train Guard by Paul C. Breslow

A number of new miscellaneous postal markings are listed in Lawson Entwistle's Second Edition of his handbook. The discovery copy of one of these (MisN-28a) is illustrated: "VIA TRAIN Guard". The cover itself has an additional "Forwarded" (MisN-41) and two town designations. The cover, originating in Virginia October 12, 1914, was addressed to Gamboa and has a beautiful magenta "Gamboa Received," (Rc-8a) October 22nd (also a first reported example) on the reverse. A "Culebra Received" (Rc-4) on the same date confirms its forwarding. Since the "Forwarded" is in the same color as the "Gamboa Received", it may be assumed that it was a Gamboa marking. An indistinct "Ancon Received", (RC-4 var.a) backstamp dated October 24th is the final marking.

The straight-line town markings appear to be from a set of markings of all offices, furnished (in varying fonts) to all post offices. These were used to expedite the direction of forwarded mail. The routing and markings are a little confusing and there are questions about the "TRAIN GUARD", so if anyone has information please respond to the Editor.

Book Review by David L. Farnsworth

Panama: The Whole Story by Kevin Buckley (New York: Simon & Schuster, 1991) (ISBN 0-671-72794-X), 304 pages, \$21.95

Although one might be suspicious of a book that purports to be the "Whole Story," this is excellent. It may be the best of the circa-1990 generation of books on this topic.

The book, written by a journalist, chronologically covers the period September 1985 through early 1991. The style is brisk. Buckley's sources are documented in notes. He details the interplay between and among US and Panamanian officials and citizens. Individuals' agendas and actions are described. Persons covered include William Casey, Elliott Abrams, Oliver North, and Ronald Reagan.

This account is different from the Dinges and Kempe books reviewed in CZP 102:8. Buckley has selected the most important details that are less sorted than some of those in the other two books. He captures the interplay of events by the chronological ordering and by portraying what it might have been like being a "fly on the wall."

The political and diplomatic push and pull are carefully described. The book might serve as a how-to-do-it and a how-not-to-do-it reference for political intrigue.

Secretary's Report

John C. Smith

408 Redwood Ln.

Schaumburg, IL 60193

As of September 1, 1992, our membership stands at 881 members. We were able to retrieve all but 26 holdouts.

1993 dues notices have been mailed, and you should have received your dues envelopes before you read this. So please help your secretary by mailing in your dues as early as possible, along with any address change. It would be helpful if you put your CZSG Number on your return envelope. It is what I use to find your file in the computer. Your number is always on the address label to the right of your name. It is appreciated very much, thank you.

As always Your CZSG officers wish you all a joyous Holiday Season and a fantastic New Year!

Those Who Serve

There are many Canal Zone Study Group members who help with the numerous tasks involved in running an organization of our size — some are elected to office, others are appointed. None receive remuneration for what they do. Instead of money giving them satisfaction, it is the pleasure they receive from helping advance the aims of our group.

A listing of those elected or appointed has never been included in a single issue of the *Canal Zone Philatelist*; so now is a good time to present a compilation of those who help to run the CZSG.

ELECTED:

President

Richard D. Bates, Jr.
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Washington, DC 20016

Vice President

Bradley G. Wilde

Secretary

John C. Smith
408 Redwood Lane
Schaumburg, IL 60193

Treasurer

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Lawson P. Entwistle

Publications Sales Office

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501 Rosebud Lane
Greer, SC 29650

Winners Column

Bradley A. Baker
P.O. Box 441228
Indianapolis, IN 46244

There are many names which do not appear in this listing. They, too, are thanked for their many hours of work in the various mail sales, for helping at booths and tables at various stamp shows around the country, and for being on the nominating committee.

WANTED CANAL ZONE

23b, 38a, 56a, 56d, 61b

Singles or multiples
Damaged to very fine

INVESCO

P.O. Box 1540
Seguin, TX 78155